



**Happy Fourth of  
July - Be Safe**

**FREQUENTLY USED  
PHONE NUMBERS**

**Emergency Services  
TPD & TFD  
DIAL 911**

**Permits 791-5550  
Housing Assistance  
791-4739**

**TCC - 791-5522**

**Code Enforcement &  
Graffiti removal  
792-CITY (2489)**

**Trash Pick up &  
Environmental  
Services 791-3171**

**Transportation &  
Street Maintenance  
- 791-3154**

**Tucson Water  
Billing - 791-3242  
Public Info. - 791-4331**

Personal Blog at:  
[badger73.blogspot.com](http://badger73.blogspot.com)

Also online at  
[Facebook.com/  
richardgimbres](https://www.facebook.com/richardgimbres)

# City of Tucson Ward 5 Newsletter

**Volume 2, Issue 2**

**July 2011**

## **A LETTER FROM VICE MAYOR FIMBRES**

Dear Friends:

For the month of July, Tucson's Mayor and Council had only one scheduled meeting, on Wednesday, July 6, several important issues were discussed.

### **TUCSON'S WATER SUPPLY**

There was an agenda item involving our water and a report from Tucson Water pertaining to our supply of it. Tucson Water reported that the federal government, specifically the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) changed their threshold for the allowable level of 1,4-dioxane, in a water supply.

The City of Tucson and Tucson Water, is proceeding with the design and construction of an enhanced treatment facility at the same time negotiating with the responsible federal entities to cover the costs. Tucson Water had this budgeted for this Fiscal Year. This Mayor and Council and Tucson Water, have been swift to act after horrific lessons learned from the TCE contamination some decades ago.

Tucson Water reported that they have been keeping the Unified Community Advisory Board (UCAB) updated about 1,4-dioxane. They have been very supportive of our efforts in managing this issue and they also understand which federal entities are responsible for the 1,4-dioxane situation. UCAB is the community board made up of many members who dealt with the TCE contamination. UCAB is a forum where stakeholders work together to resolve issues and participate in the cleanup process at the Tucson International Airport Area Superfund Site and the TCE contamination.

Tucson Water is closely monitoring the 1,4-dioxane levels and remains committed to continuing to meet the moving target set by the Environmental Protection Agency. Your Council Office and this Mayor and Council will not wait to take any step needed to keep our water safe and not to have another TCE situation.

There will be a meeting of UCAB on Wednesday, July 20, 5:45 p.m., at the El Pueblo Activity Center, 101 West Irvington Road. Tucson Water will be making another presentation about 1,4-dioxane and it is important that the community attends this meeting to learn, to help and to ask questions.

Your Ward 5 Council Office is in the process of setting up a series of meetings and forums about 1,4-dioxane, and will have any new information on this in upcoming

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Help those who are in need. Give to the Community food Bank. For more information, call 520-622-0525

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newsletters, as well as the blog, Facebook page and the Ward 5 page at the City of Tucson website.

### REPAIRING TUCSON'S ROADS

Tucson's roads and potholes were also on the July 6, Mayor and Council agenda. A proposal to combine the left over surpluses of the Mayor and Ward office's budgets, totaling \$240,000 to put toward road repair and pothole filling, throughout the City of Tucson. Your Ward 5 Council Office had a surplus of \$43,600, which has been added to this effort.

In addition, with the recent sale of two City owned parcels in Ward 5 to Land-mark Development, in the area west of 22nd Street and Kino, for a total of \$585,000. Thanks to your Council Office, these funds will also be added to this effort for road repair and potholes. These parcels were purchased by the City of Tucson in 2008, using HURF (Highway User Revenue Funds) monies the city receives. Under HURF rules, any monies received from any HURF project must be used for road projects. This transaction happened after the approval of the FY 2012 budget and these funds had not been directed for any other road project, so the Ward 5 Office had them directed for this collaborative effort.

During the July 6 meeting, these funds were added, bringing the total to \$825,000 for road work to be done in FY 2012 across the entire City of Tucson, not just one block, intersection or Ward.

The Director of the Tucson Department of Transportation will now meet with each of the offices to discuss what roads (and potholes) should be worked on and to answer questions from our community. The Ward 5 Council Office wants to hear from you on what roads, potholes and otherwise should be considered for this first effort. So if you have ideas, or just questions, either call the Ward 5 office at 791-4231 or Email at ward5@tucsonaz.gov, and put in the subject line: road repair - potholes and list which ones you think need them or with your questions.

### OPENING TUCSON'S POOLS

As we are well aware, due to the budgetary situation, many of Tucson's Parks and Recreation pools were closed, several of them in our Ward. At the Mayor and Council meeting, another step toward getting the funding to open the pools for Fiscal Year 2012, which started July 1, was taken by this office. On the July 6 agenda, was approval of a contract with AT&T to construct a cell-telephone communications tower, in the West parking lot of the Thomas Price Service Center complex, next to the Ward 5 Council Office and City Clerk's Records Center was approved by Mayor and Council, with one condition.

The rental revenues from this, totaling \$100,000, would be directed to go toward opening the closed Tucson Parks and Recreation pools (seventeen) for this Fiscal Year. With this and the savings from the Pascua Neighborhood Center in Ward 3 being transferred to the Pascua Yaqui Tribe, a total of \$193,000 has been set aside for this.

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## TUCSON'S GOVERNMENT

This Mayor and Council are looking at other ways to deal with the budgetary situation. Despite the accounts, the budget has been balanced for this Fiscal Year and the focus must be on reviving the Ward 5 economic engine, as well as the City of Tucson's. Your Council Office is working hard toward this. Even with this, the City of Tucson cannot continue to practice the same "business as usual" approach with dealing with the most important people, its constituents. Times have changed and it is time for the City of Tucson's government to change with the times. Standard operating procedure that has been the policy, will not work anymore. These tough economic times and the people warrant a change in course.

## IN OTHER NEWS

Recently the Living Water Ministries held their 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. I want to thank Apostle Warren Anderson Jr., Senior Pastor and Executive Elder First Lady, Carolyn Anderson for their work to make our community a better place. I also want to express my thanks to the Ministries for their notice, as well as the other honorees: Pastor Amos Lewis, Golden Corral - Erick Godoy, Beth Walkup, Pastor D. Grady Scott, Anthony Simms and Vickie Mesimer.

## REVITALIZING OUR ECONOMIC ENGINE

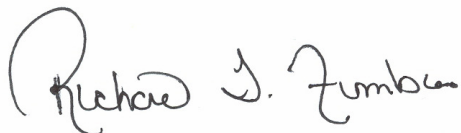
Congratulations to the Ashton Construction Company - located in Ward 5, which began its work on constructing the Cushing Street Bridge, the first project for Tucson's Modern Streetcar. About 100 local people are now employed and working on this \$6 million dollar project, funded through federal grants.

This Mayor and Council approved the land sale to Landmark Development of two parcels in the area of 22<sup>nd</sup> and Highland, which will now be part of a 188-unit, casita (cottage) style, student housing (a non-mini dorm) development. This is a \$20 million dollar construction project by people who have built housing on the U of A campus and are working on another project at Fourth Avenue and Fifth Street.

Two General Dollar Stores are now in the Ward, one on 22<sup>nd</sup> Street and one being constructed on 36<sup>th</sup> Street.

For this past month of June, more than \$55 million in construction and commercial development permits were issued by the City of Tucson, Development Services office. Since changes in the Certificate of Occupancy process, brought by your Councilmember, more than \$345 million in permits have been issued since the changes went into effect in August 2010 alone. Tucson is taking the step toward seeing the light at the end of the economic tunnel, thanks .

Peace.



Richard G. Fimbres  
Your Ward 5 Councilmember and current Vice Mayor